

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

Original claims 1-12 (cancelled)

Claim 13 (new): A method of processing green coffee beans, comprising:
a fermentation process of bringing green coffee beans, which are unground seeds from coffee berries, microorganisms, and nutritive substances that are metabolized by said microorganisms, into contact with one another to cause fermentation.

Claim 14 (new): A method of processing green coffee beans, comprising:
a fermentation process of bringing green coffee beans, which are unground seeds from coffee berries, microorganisms, and nutritive substances that are metabolized by said microorganisms, into contact with one another to cause fermentation,
followed by
a separation process of separating out only said green coffee beans that have passed through the fermentation process.

Claim 15 (new): A method of processing green coffee beans, comprising:
a fermentation process of bringing green coffee beans, which are unground seeds from coffee berries, and nutritive substances that are metabolized by microorganisms, into contact with one another, and then bringing those into contact with said microorganisms.

Claim 16 (new): A method of processing green coffee beans, comprising:
a fermentation process of bringing microorganisms and nutritive substances that are metabolized by said microorganisms into contact with one another, and then bringing those into contact with green coffee beans, which are unground seeds from coffee berries.

Claim 17 (new): A method of processing green coffee beans, comprising:
a fermentation process of bringing green coffee beans, which are unground seeds from coffee berries, microorganisms, and nutritive substances that are metabolized by said microorganisms, into contact with one another to cause fermentation;
wherein said microorganisms are at least one type of microorganism selected from the group consisting of yeast, lactic acid bacteria, and mold.

Claim 18 (new): A method of processing green coffee beans, comprising:
a fermentation process by bringing green coffee beans, which are unground seeds from coffee berries, microorganisms, and nutritive substances that are metabolized by said microorganisms, into contact with one another to cause fermentation;
wherein said nutritive substances are at least one type of nutritive substance selected from the group consisting of fruit pulp, fruit juice, sugars, grains, and nutrient media.

Claim 19 (new): The method of processing green coffee beans according to claim 18, wherein said fruit pulp is coffee pulp, and said coffee pulp has been dried.

Claim 20 (new): The method of processing green coffee beans according to claim 17, wherein said yeast is brewers yeast.

Claim 21 (new): Roasted coffee beans that are obtained by roasting green coffee beans that have been processed by a method of processing green coffee beans that comprises a fermentation process of bringing green coffee beans, which are unground seeds from coffee berries, microorganisms, and nutritive substances that are metabolized by said microorganisms, into contact with one another to cause fermentation.

Claim 22 (new): A coffee beverage that is obtained by grinding up and adding water to the roasted coffee beans of claim 21, then extracting said water by filtration with a filter.

Claim 23 (new): A method of processing coffee berries, comprising:
a fermentation process of bringing coffee berries having a coffee seed and coffee pulp into contact with microorganisms that metabolize said coffee pulp to cause fermentation, and a refining process.

Claim 24 (new): The method of processing coffee berries according to claim 23, wherein said coffee berries have been dried.

Claim 25 (new): The method of processing coffee berries according to claim 23, wherein said fermentation process is performed in advance of said refining process.

Claim 26 (new): The method of processing coffee berries according to claim 23, wherein a dry-type refining process is performed in said refining process.

Claim 27 (new): The method of processing coffee berries according to claim 23, wherein said microorganisms are at least one type of microorganism selected from the group consisting of yeast, lactic acid bacteria, and mold.

Claim 28 (new): The method of processing coffee berries according to claim 27, wherein said yeast is brewers yeast.

Claim 29 (new): Green coffee beans that are obtained by performing a fermentation process of bringing coffee berries, which have a coffee seed and coffee pulp, and microorganisms into contact with one another to cause fermentation, and a refining process.

Claim 30 (new): Roasted coffee beans that are obtained by roasting the green coffee beans according to claim 29.

Claim 31 (new): A coffee beverage that is obtained by grinding up and adding water to the roasted coffee beans of claim 30, then extracting said water by filtration with a filter.